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Dear Families of the Class of 2030,

Welcome to The Academy of the Holy Cross! We are so happy to welcome you and your daughter into our community and thrilled that you have chosen Holy Cross for this exciting next chapter. We cannot wait to get to know your family and to welcome your daughter as a member of the Class of 2030.

Holy Cross is a place where girls are encouraged to be curious, confident, and fully themselves. Rooted in the Holy Cross tradition, our mission centers on educating the whole student academically, personally, and ethically within a warm, supportive, and values-driven environment. We believe high school should be a time of growth, discovery, and joy, and we are committed to helping each student find her voice and her path.

As a small, all-girls high school, we are able to offer a truly personal educational experience. Our expert teachers and staff know students well and care deeply about their success. Inside the classroom and beyond, students are challenged, supported, and encouraged to explore their interests, take healthy risks, and grow in confidence as learners and leaders.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find a sample freshman schedule, including examples of Purple and White days, Tartan Time, and our 9th Grade Advisory Program. Advisory plays an important role in helping students transition smoothly to high school by building strong organizational habits, self-advocacy skills, and meaningful connections within the Holy Cross community. You will also find detailed information regarding course registration and graduation requirements.

To support appropriate academic placement, all students complete a mathematics placement assessment. This helps us ensure each student begins in courses that best match her current skills and set her up for success. Students with prior experience in French, Latin, or Spanish will also complete a world language placement assessment.

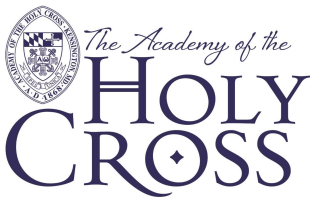
Placement testing will be offered on campus this spring. Specific dates, times, and registration details are available on the Welcome New Families page of our website.

Once again, welcome to The Academy of the Holy Cross and to the Class of 2030. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in us and excited to partner with you in the years ahead. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions; I am always happy to help.

We look forward to a wonderful year ahead and all that the Class of 2030 will bring to our community.

Warmly,

Kathy Hannah  
Principal



# Course Registration Information 2026-27 for Incoming 9th Grade

**English:** All students will be placed into *English I* or *Honors English I* based on their 8th grade transcript and HSPT scores.

**History:** All students will take *World History & Geography I (10,000 BCE - 1450 CE)*.

**Math:** All students will be placed into *Algebra I*, *Honors Algebra I*, *Geometry*, *Honors Geometry*, *Algebra II with Analysis*, or *Honors Algebra II*. Algebra I students may also be placed concurrently in *Algebra I Lab* for additional enrichment. Placement will depend on middle school math grades, a math placement test, and HSPT scores.

**Science:** All students will be placed into *Physics* or *Honors Physics* based on their 8th grade transcript, HSPT scores, and a math placement test.

**Theology:** All students will take *Christian Foundations I: Scripture (fall)* and *Christian Foundations II: Doctrine (spring)*.

**World Languages:** All students will take *Spanish I*, *French I*, or *Latin I*, unless placed in a higher level class after taking an optional language placement test.

**Electives:** All students must register for two semester-long courses. See possible options below.

**The required Math and optional Language placement tests will be Saturday, April 11, 2026.**

## Requirements for graduation:

<p><b>Electives</b></p> <p><i>Graduation requirements:</i></p> <p>1 credit Fine Arts</p> <p>1 credit Physical Education</p> <p>1 credit General Elective</p>	<p><b>Fine Arts</b></p> <p><b>Dance:</b> Modern Dance, Musical Theatre Dance</p> <p><b>Choir:</b> Glee Choir</p> <p><b>Music:</b> Instrumental Ensemble, Intro to Digital Audio Production</p> <p><b>Theatre:</b> Theatre &amp; Performance, Intro to Film Acting: Shakespeare, Technical Theatre</p> <p><b>Visual Arts:</b> Studio Art, Graphic Design &amp; Digital Media, 3D Design Fundamentals, Advanced Ceramics, Yearbook</p>	<p><b>Physical Education</b> <i>(recommend to enroll in one of these courses)</i></p> <p>Wellness Lab</p> <p>Yoga</p> <p>PE: Team Sports</p> <p>PE: Strength &amp; Conditioning</p>	<p><b>Technology</b></p> <p>Cybersecurity</p> <p>Coding and Robotics</p> <p><b>World Languages</b></p> <p>The Ancient World: Culture and Language <i>*does not count toward the 3-year language requirement</i></p>
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## Sample Student Schedule

<b><u>Fall Semester</u></b> (Aug 24-Dec 18)	<b><u>Purple Day</u></b>	<b><u>White Day</u></b>
	Period 1: English I	Period 5: World History & Geography I
	Tartan Time	Tartan Time
	Period 2: Health	Period 6: Study Hall
	Period 3: Math	Period 7: Christian Foundations I: Scripture
	Period 4: Physics	Period 8: French I

<b><u>Spring Semester</u></b> (Jan 5-June 4)	<b><u>Purple Day</u></b>	<b><u>White Day</u></b>
	Period 1: English	Period 5: World History & Geography I
	Tartan Time	Tartan Time
	Period 2: Modern Dance	Period 6: Christian Foundations II: Doctrine
	Period 3: Math	Period 7: Study Hall
	Period 4: Physics	Period 8: French I

### What is Tartan Time?

Tartan Time is a one-hour flex block occurring daily between 1st and 2nd periods.  
Tartan Time enhances academic skill development and community building.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All School Assembly	Academic Resource	Advisory (9th Grade Program)	Academic Resource/Clubs	All School Events or Academic Resource

### What is the 9th Grade Program?

The 9th Grade Advisory Program supports freshmen in their social, emotional, and academic development, ensuring a smooth transition into high school. Through a structured and inclusive environment, students build essential skills, receive personalized guidance from advisors, and develop strong relationships. The program also fosters collaboration with parents and guardians to enhance student success.

**On March 16th, you will receive an email from Ashley Gardner, the Dean of Students, with your daughter's course request form attached and further instructions.**

*We can't wait to see our future Tartans in the fall!*



# The Academy of the HOLY CROSS

## 2026 - 2027 School Calendar Dates\*

<b>August 12-14</b> - Fall Sports Tryouts
<b>August 24</b> - All School Orientation
<b>August 25</b> - First Day of Classes
<b>September 7</b> - Labor Day - No School
<b>October 12</b> - Indigenous Peoples' Day - No School
<b>November 23-24</b> - e-Learning Days
<b>November 25-27</b> - Thanksgiving Break, No School
<b>November 30</b> - Classes Resume
<b>December 14-18</b> - Semester 1 Exams
<b>December 21 - January 4</b> - Winter Break/Christmas, No School
<b>January 5</b> - Classes Resume
<b>January 18</b> - MLK Day - No School
<b>February 15</b> - President's Day - No School
<b>March 25 - April 2</b> - Easter/Spring Break, No School
<b>April 5</b> - Classes Resume
<b>April 26-30</b> - Senior Assessments
<b>April 30</b> - Seniors Last Day
<b>May 28</b> - Noon Dismissal
<b>May 31</b> - Memorial Day, No School
<b>June 1-4</b> - Semester 2 Exams
<b>June 7</b> - Commencement Liturgy (Baccalaureate/Graduation)

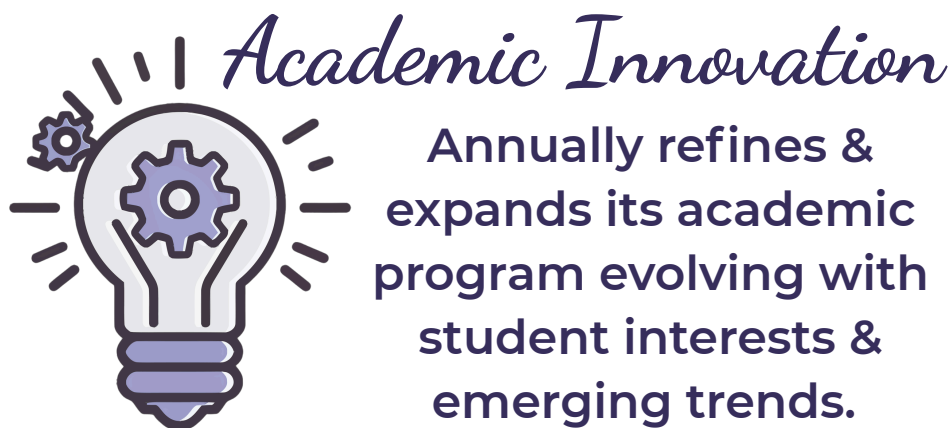


# THE HOLY CROSS RETURN ON INVESTMENT OUTCOMES THAT ENDURE

## *Measurable Return*



Millions in merit-based college scholarships, national recognition for academic excellence and significant financial value for families.



## *Academic Innovation*

Annually refines & expands its academic program evolving with student interests & emerging trends.

## *Rigor for Every Student*



College-preparatory at its core, with distinction through Sancta Crux and Madeleva Scholars, culminating in capstones that showcase depth and applied learning.

## *100% Faculty Retention*



Stable, committed educators strengthen instructional continuity, deepen student relationships.

## *Forming the Whole Person*



Structured 9th Grade Advisory creating greater confidence supports executive functioning, study skills, identity development, and confident transition into high school life.

## *Tailored Supports Across Domain*



Saint Mary's Program and Student Support Program provide Individualized academic, social-emotional, and pastoral supports where no student is anonymous.

## *Women Lead Here*



In an all-girls Catholic environment, every leadership role is theirs where intellectual formation, public voice, and Christian service shape leadership as responsibility to community.

## *Rooted in Faith*



Grounded in the Sisters of the Holy Cross charism, students grow in faith through prayer, liturgy, retreats, and service, prepared to lead with conviction and compassion.